



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL
Pipeline Safety Division

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TO: Operators of Rural Low Stress and Gathering Hazardous Liquid Lines

The Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has published the final rules for Protecting Unusually Sensitive Areas from Onshore Hazardous Liquid Gathering Lines and Low Stress Lines. Effective July 3, 2008, the following pipelines have become subject to rules and regulations of CFR Part 195 and are now under the regulatory authority of the California State Fire Marshal:

RURAL GATHERING LINES

- ▶ A gathering line is defined as a line that transports petroleum from a production facility.
- ▶ Nominal diameter of 6 5/8" and 8 5/8"
- ▶ Operates at MOP greater than 20% SYMS or greater than 125 psig
- ▶ Located within ¼ mile of an Unusually Sensitive Area (USA)

RURAL LOW STRESS LINES

- ▶ An onshore line in a rural area
- ▶ Nominal diameter of 8 5/8" or more
- ▶ Located within ½ mile of an USA
- ▶ Operates at a maximum pressure of 20% or less of the specified minimum yield strength of the line pipe or at a pressure of 125 psig or less.

For more information, please visit our website at: <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pipeline/pipeline.php>.

Additionally, you may contact Supervising Pipeline Safety Engineer, Chuck Macdonald at (661)587-1601.

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